



# FOOD PRODUCERS of IDAHO, Inc.

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May 25, 2011

Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of Applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for Consent to Assign or Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding – No. 11-65).

Dear Commissioners

Those in the farming community typically live and work in rural areas, so any business transaction such as the T-Mobile and AT&T merger that will offer wireless capabilities to a larger cross-section of America is important. Food Producers of Idaho, representing over 40 farm organizations and commodity groups across the state, is an association of various growers, producers, agriculture educators and processors in Idaho. While Idaho is famous for growing potatoes, the state actually produces much more than spuds; in fact, our complex agriculture infrastructure helps feed millions of Americans each year.

The internet allows farmers and those in related industries to quickly and easily share information on issues ranging from conservation and the environment to water management. From buying equipment to stay abreast of the latest weather conditions and following commodities markets, the agriculture industry is not just working in the fields; they are researching and managing logistics online. So, any effort made by telecommunications companies to connect more people in rural areas is welcomed. The more access to broadband technology, the more competitive American agriculture will be on the world stage. Even President Obama and members of Congress have highlighted the importance of high-speed internet on the farming community.

I certainly hope the Federal Communications Commission will look at this merger from the perspective of those in the field of business and agriculture and approve this merger. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully

Rick Waitley, Executive Director

encl: List of Food Producers of Idaho Members

C: Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell

# Food Producers of Idaho

## Voting Organizational Members

Ada County Farm Bureau  
Canyon County Farm Bureau  
Far West Agribusiness Association  
Idaho Alfalfa & Clover Seed Growers Association  
Idaho Association of Highway Districts  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Idaho Bankers Association  
Idaho Cattle Association  
Idaho Cooperative Council  
Idaho Council on Industry & the Environment  
Idaho Dairymen's Association  
Idaho Eastern Oregon Seed Association  
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation  
Idaho Grain Producers Association  
Idaho Grape Growers & Wine Producers Commission  
Idaho Ground Water Appropriators  
Idaho Hay & Forage Association  
Idaho Honey Industry Association  
Idaho Mint Growers Association  
Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association

Idaho Onion Growers Association  
Idaho-Oregon Fruit & Vegetable Association  
Idaho Pork Producers Association  
Idaho Potato Commission  
Idaho State Grange  
Idaho Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Idaho Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association  
Idaho Water Users Association  
Idaho Weed Control Association  
Idaho Wool Growers Association  
J.R. Simplot Company  
Marsing Ag Labor Sponsoring Committee  
Monsanto  
Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Association  
Northwest Farm Credit Services  
Nyssa-Nampa Beet Growers  
The Amalgamated Sugar Company  
USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council  
Wilder Community Farm Labor Committee

## Affiliate Organizational Members

CoBank  
Idaho Assoc. of Commerce & Industry  
Idaho Bean Commission  
Idaho Crop Improvement Association  
Idaho Elk Breeders Association  
Owyhee Cattlemen's Association

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc  
Pleasant Ridge Grange #135  
Syngenta Seeds  
University of Idaho CALS  
Wilder Housing Authority

## Supporting Individual Members

Anderson, Joe & Pam  
Bolz, Rep. Darrell  
Burnett, Chuck  
Bryan, Charlie  
Dixon, Dave & Dan (Greenleaf Farms, Inc.)  
Dixon, Don (Dixon Farms)  
Eckert, Granville (Maurice Eckert and Sons)  
Eggers, Drew  
Endow, Rod  
Esplin, Keith  
Field, Frances  
Field, Howard  
Field, Mike  
Jeffers, Dale (Skyline Vineyards)  
Jones, Curtis (Roost Potato Company, Inc)  
Jones, Douglas (Growers for Biotechnology)  
Kauffman, Clark & Debbie  
Martineau, Steve (Martineau Farms)  
Matthews, Vince (USDA-NASS, Idaho Field Office)  
McIntosh, Art (TriMax Associates)  
Miller, Cleo (Miller Farms)  
Momont, Pat

Nelson, Ken (Nelson Farms)  
Neufeld, Jerry (UI Extension)  
Nichols, Mike (Apple Valley Farms, Inc.)  
Olmstead, Brent (Milk Producers of Idaho)  
Orr, John  
Patrick, Rep. Jim  
Paul, Dave (USDA Risk Management Agency)  
Pline, Clinton  
Rasgorshek, Paul (Paul Rasgorshek Farms)  
Rohleder, Patricia McCoy  
Schmidt, Sara (Idaho SWC Commission)  
Schmitt, Gene (I.P. Callison & Sons)  
Stevenson, Rep. John "Bert"  
Story, Larry (Story Farms)  
Takasugi, Rep. Patrick (Takasugi Seed Farms)  
Thiessen, Wayne (Thiessen Consulting)  
Tiegs, Leland (Harvest Tiegs)  
Weitz, Joe (Western Farms, Inc)  
Wittman, Nicholas  
Wittmeyer, Jane (Wittmeyer & Associates, LLC)  
Wooten, Kip